

**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**February 22, 2010**

A **Public Hearing** was held on Monday, **February 22, 2010**, at 8:15 p.m., in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, to solicit public comment, written or oral, on **community needs and priorities for housing, public facilities and economic development**. Berkeley County will provide the results of its needs assessment and the activities which might be undertaken to meet identified needs, including the estimated amounts proposed to be used for activities that will benefit persons of low and moderate income. This Public Hearing and the matters to be discussed are subject to the provisions of the Berkeley County Citizen Participation Plan, developed in anticipation of participation in the State of South Carolina's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, providing for the participation of the citizens of Berkeley County in the planning and implementation of community and economic development projects which will involve CDBG Funds.

Present: Mr. Daniel W. Davis, Supervisor, Chairman; Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Council Member District No. 7, Vice Chairman; Mr. Phillip Farley, Council Member District No. 1; Mr. Timothy J. Callanan, Council Member District No. 2; Mr. Robert O. Call, Jr., Council Member District No. 3; Mrs. Cathy S. Davis, Council Member District No. 4; Mr. Dennis L. Fish, Council Member District No. 5; Mr. Jack H. Schurlock, Council Member District No. 6; Mr. Steve C. Davis, Council Member District No. 8; Mrs. Nicole Scott Ewing, County Attorney; and Ms. Barbara B. Austin, Clerk of County Council.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

Chairman Daniel Davis called the meeting to order and stated there was one Public Hearing being held to solicit public comment, written or oral.

There were no written comments for Public Hearing.

Mr. Darryl Bullock, with the Berkeley/Charleston/Dorchester Council of Governments stated, "Each year, the County holds this Public Hearing usually about this time to receive comments from the public as to what they feel the community development needs are for low and moderate income persons in Berkeley County, so we would be able to include those comments in our community needs assessment and in the community development application that we usually file in April.

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments.

Ms. Vivian Salters, residing in St. Stephen, addressed Council and stated, "Good evening to the Berkeley County Council Members. I am here to talk about the Berkeley Water Project, another water project. I'm representing concerned citizens of St. Stephen, the Old Field Section, particularly the Burntwood Water Project, which will provide

public waterlines in our community. The Berkeley Water Project began in May of 2009. After meeting with Mr. Rogers, Director of Customer Service of Water and Sanitation, on the procedures that were required or that are required to secure public waterlines in our community. A committee made up of seven individuals was established to discuss how we could accomplish this task and follow the County guidelines. There's several reasons why. We not only want the water for the Burntwood Water Project, but we really need the water desperately. A number of our residents continually encounter problems with their well water, including, but not limited to offensive odors, debris, sand, rust and low water pressure. Our community's rapidly growing with many new homes and residents. Additionally, we have aging residents in the community, as well as persons with critical health issues. Following the guidelines that were presented by Water and Sanitation, the committee members developed a petition for the residents to sign. In June and July of 2009, the committee members divided the community and knocked on every door in the community. Our main task was to inform residents about the procedures for the residents to receive the water. I am proud to say that it was very successful. We informed them that if they wanted water to be directed to their homes, they would have to sign a petition, but remember, we were only concerned citizens. We were not the County to give any information. Once again, the project was successful. Committee members were really concerned and disturbed when we were told by many of our residents, particularly, the elderly, that they could no longer use their well water for drinking, cooking purposes or laundering their clothing. They were now purchasing bottled water. Our petition was signed by the members and homes' residents that wanted the water. We submitted our signed petitions to Water and Sanitation. We also sent letters to several of the members that are present in this room tonight. On August 27<sup>th</sup> of 2009, we held our public community meeting with various offices. The meeting was well attended. The meeting met the guidelines to qualify for grant dollars to fund the water project for Burntwood. We believe that clean water and environmentally safe water is a necessity of survival. For this reason, we are asking the County for your continued support and encourage approval of funds for the installation of the water project waterlines for the Burntwood Water Project. And, I thank you."

Council Member Callanan asked, "Micah, was this the item that was brought to us last month?"

Mr. Micah Miley, Director of Engineering, Berkeley County Water and Sanitation, responded, "Yes."

Council Member Callanan stated, "And, I just want to say thank you for doing all the hard work that you did. It is – you know, this is one of the issues that we brought up that it's very important to talk to the community first to find out if there's actually a need there before, you know, we arbitrarily decide that we think there might be a need there, and you've done that for us. And, what was, like a percentage wise, do you think the response was? It doesn't have to be exact, but, you know, just kind of give me an idea."

Ms. Salters responded, "We knocked on approximately, I would say, 92 houses, residents there. A few of the houses were closed, of course. And, I would say that, perhaps, 78 to 80 percent of the individuals signed the petition saying that they wanted the waterlines to come to their homes, but we only did the first step."

Council Member Callanan stated, "Sure."

Ms. Salters continued, "We're not the County. We're not employed by the County. We're just concerned citizens. And then, Mr. Rogers office took over, and I think it was in September, they started knocking on the doors of those that had signed to do the qualification when it comes to income. But, we have done the first part, which we were instructed to do."

Council Member Callanan stated, "Right; and again, thank you so much for doing that, for taking leadership on that. The County appreciates it. Thank you."

Chairman Daniel Davis asked if there were any public comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was declared ended at 8:22 p.m.

S/Barbara B. Austin, CCC  
Clerk of County Council

March 22, 2010  
Date Approved